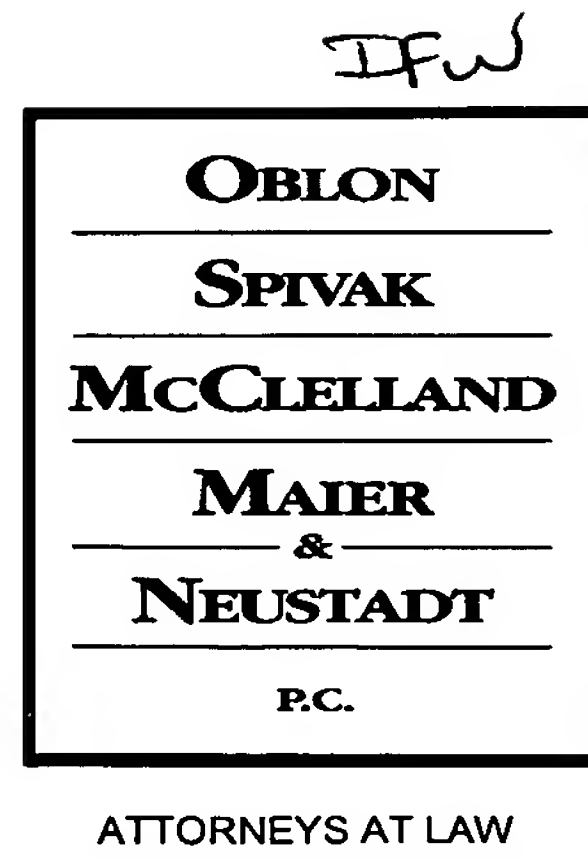




Docket No.: 279689US0X PCT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



RE: Application Serial No.: 10/553,124  
Applicants: Noboru ENDO, et al.  
Filing Date: October 14, 2005  
For: GENE CAPABLE OF IMPARTING SALT STRESS  
RESISTANCE  
Group Art Unit: 1638  
Examiner: KUMAR, V.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**Response to Restriction Requirement**

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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Docket No.: 279689US0XPCT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Noboru ENDO, ET AL

: EXAMINER: KUMAR, V.

SERIAL NO.: 10/553,124

:

FILED: OCTOBER 14, 2005

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1638

FOR: GENE CAPABLE OF IMPARTING SALT STRESS RESISTANCE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated January 17, 2007, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-11, 19-27, and 42, drawn to a gene encoding a protein, a recombinant vector, transgenic plant or a method of imparting salt stress in a plant comprising said gene, for further prosecution.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Group I:   | Claims 1-11, 19-27, and 42 drawn to a gene encoding a protein, a recombinant vector, transgenic plant or a method of imparting salt stress in a plant comprising said gene; |
| Group II:  | Claims 12-17, 28-33, and 35-41 drawn to a selection marker for a transgenic plant; and  |
| Group III: | Claims 18, 34 and 43 drawn to a method for selecting a transgenic plant.  |